

REMARKS

Upon entry of the Amendment, Claims 1-6 and 8-19 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 7 has been canceled. Claims 1, 8 and 9 have been amended. Support for the amendment can be found in the specification such as on pages 6-7. Therefore, no new matter has been added.

Preliminarily, Applicant notes that the Examiner has not acknowledged Applicant's claim of priority to JP 2003-091633 and receipt of the certified copy of the priority document. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner acknowledge Applicant's claim for priority and indicate that the certified copy of the priority document has been received.

Claims 1-8, 10-12 and 14-19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over the patent to Shimada (JP 2002-283730).

Without admitting that the rejection is correct, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1-6, 8, 10-12, and 14-19 presently recite subject matter that is patentable over the cited art. At page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner has indicated that Claims 9 and 13 "would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims." The subject matter of Claim 9 has been added to Claim 1. Also, the subject matter of Claim 13 has been added to Claim 1. Claims 2-6 and 8-19 depend directly or indirectly from Claim 1. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

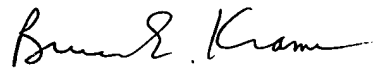
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No. 10/809,952
Attorney Docket No. Q80495

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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